

July 12, 2022

Empire Township Board - Regular Meeting

Supervisor Carl Noonan called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Township Hall. Present were members Deegan, Casey Noonan, Price, and Neiswonger. Motion-Casey Noonan; support-Deegan to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2022 regular meeting as written. All ayes.

Assessor Report: Due to new Michigan law, July and December Board of Review (BOR) meetings do not need to be held. The assessor may now process Principal Resident Exemptions without the BOR.

Campground Report: Clerk reported that a storage shed is not needed at the park to store boxes of yearly paper records. Joe Harriger has agreed to make room in the garage for box storage.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Price reported on CDs and bank accounts as of 06-30-2022. Report received as read.

Planning & Zoning Report: 1.) Zoning Administrator, Tim Cypher, issued the following permits/approvals in June: 1) Private road-Echo Valley Rd. 2) New dwelling-Leelanau Hwy. 3) Two solar arrays-Drew Rd. 4) Special Use Permit-Glen Lake Manor, Glenmere Rd. 2.) Trustee Micah Deegan reported that Planning will soon be scheduling a site plan review for the Glen Lake Manor's special use permit proposed renovations.

Supervisor Report: 1.) Board received an updated Special Event application for the 10/1/22 Sleeping Bear Marathon, which includes the County Emergency Management's approval and addition of the Empire Board's condition that at least a four foot area be coned on the west side of LaCore Road for runners to utilize for the race. Motion-Neiswonger; support-Casey Noonan to approve the Sleeping Bear Marathon's Special Event application, contingent upon the inclusion of the Board's condition regarding a four foot coned area on the west side of LaCore Road and the County Emergency Management Director's continued and final approvals for the event. 4 ayes. 1 nay-Deegan. Motion carried. 2.) Board reviewed a Cemetery Ordinance prepared by Attorney Timothy Figura that removes references to a cemetery commission, which no longer exists, and establishes regulations relating to the operation, control and management of cemeteries owned by Empire Township. In addition, the Ordinance acknowledges the Cemetery Rules and Regulations as a supplement to the Ordinance that can be amended as needed by the Township Board. Motion was made by Deegan; support-Casey Noonan to adopt the Cemetery Ordinance 2022-01 as presented. Roll call vote: All ayes. The Ordinance will take effect the day after publication. 3.) The Board reviewed the Empire Chamber of Commerce Special Event application for the 9/16/22 & 9/17/22 Empire Hill Climb submitted by Paul Skinner. Motion was made by Deegan; support-Casey Noonan that the Empire Township Board approves the 2022 Empire Hill Climb Special Event application, contingent on a favorable review and report from the Leelanau County's Emergency Management Director. All ayes.

Clerk Report: 1.) Letter from Thunder Bay Tree Service scheduling tree spraying for Consumers Energy in our area in June/July. 2.) Motion-Casey Noonan; support-Carl Noonan to pay the July 2022 monthly bills as presented and attached. All ayes. 3.) Board reviewed the financial statement. Motion-Deegan; support Casey Noonan to transfer \$1500 from General Fund Contingencies and Prior Surplus to: Clerk Supplies-\$500 and Twp. Ofc. Equipment-\$1000; transfer \$240 from Campground Fund Contingencies to: UIA; and transfer \$60 from Airport Fund Contingencies to: Prof. Services. All ayes.

Final Business: 1.) Fire Chief Ferguson reported that it will cost approximately \$5000 to repair the exterior drain at Station 2 and bids for a new engine have been received in the amount of \$829,000 up to \$923,000.

All business being concluded the meeting was adjourned by the Supervisor at 8:12 p.m.

Christine M. Neiswonger, Clerk